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AMATEUR HOUSE DECORATION



FAN DESIGNS AS TAPESTRY SUBJECTS.

THE designs for painted fans which appear on this page are exquisite compositions, and will give invaluable suggestions to those who wish to decorate their rooms with panels in

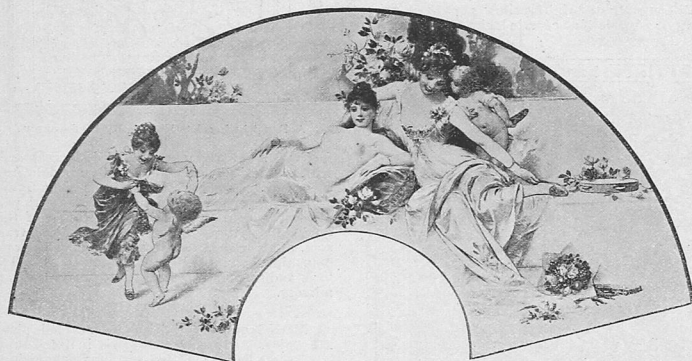
bunch of berries on their stems. To relieve the green and red, I also had at each place a slender vase holding a white rose and two buds, while a larger vase filled with roses stood at either end of the oblong center-piece. Though I say it myself, there was never a prettier table than that, and the decorations were not expensive. The moss and berries on their stems, were ordered long enough beforehand to insure the market-man time to bring them, that was all. If it were impossible to secure these I should have massed my stemmed berries in the center of the mirror, surrounding them with any convenient greenery,

through the white and tinted jellies to the close. These were piled in irregularly-shaped alternate blocks upon a large platter, and placed before me to serve, because it was so decorative. Interspersed in the white blocks were a few huge strawberries, that showed as plainly as if frozen in ice, "I am as curious to know how they got there," said one guest, "as was the king who wondered how the apple got into the dumpling." I explained, that as the jelly cooled it was spooned out into the mold and two or three berries dropped in, and shortly after covered with the fast thickening jelly. The process was repeated until the mold was filled and placed on ice.

Vis-a-vis to the jelly was the strawberry shortcake. Between the two layers was whipped cream and mashed and sweetened berries, and on the top more whipped cream and concentric rings of berries. By putting a trifle of isinglass and whites of eggs in the cream and standing it on ice, it was kept from running off the warm shortcake. It was not only delightful to see, but delectable to the taste. I have my shortcakes unsweetened, as, in this way, the rich flavor of the berry is not lost, as it would be in common with cake.

Wanting the moss, I would use other greenery, plenty of it, that was fine and feathery, and with it red and white carnations. I should have a plentiful supply of the white to offset the green and the strawberry color. Then, the fruit and the flower go well together. Both have fragrance, and a peculiar richness, and each, to offset its solid shape, is relieved by the feathery, spray-like greenery of whatever can be easiest procured, having that character.

The tips of garden asparagus that has grown unchecked, show just that misty broken effect that contrasts with the solid masses of berry and carnation. In a large cut-glass dish I would pile the berries and fringe them with the white flowers and the greenery. Besides, the carnations should be bunched by themselves—the deep red and the white separately. This is a flower needing a tall, slender vase. Not too many should be grouped together. Most people think they can-



Design For a Painted Fan. By C. Ritter.

painted tapestry. The subject of the first design will form an excellent panel for the decoration of the mantel-breast of a drawing-room or ball-room, and the second design will prove equally graceful for the mantel of a bedroom. Perhaps the best method of making use of such tapestry is to have frames of carved wood of original design executed to contain the panels. The wood should be similar to that used in the trim of the room itself, or it may be enameled in any given color.

A STRAWBERRY LUNCHEON.

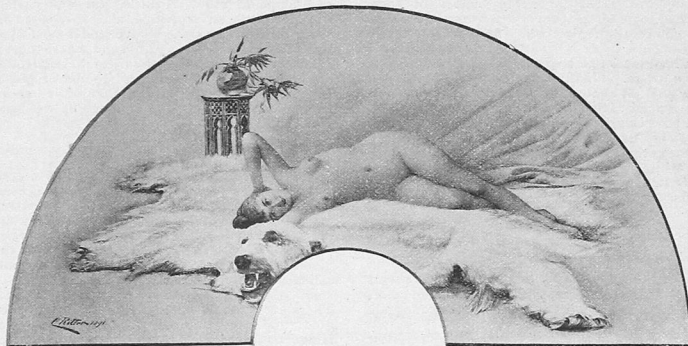
BY HESTER M. POOLE.

I ENGAGED my fruiterer to have a boy bring me from the woods a lot of bright moss, the kind that holds those red fairies' cups that are so minutely beautiful. With it he brought some of those trailing vines and plants that grow in the woods, such as twin and checker berries, and the princess pine. In the center of the lunch table I placed a large, old jappanned waiter, and on that a mirror. Then I edged the mirror and the tray with a narrow rim of moss and vines. For the middle of the mirror I took an oval, shallow glass dish, and filled that with moss, heaping it in a low mound in the center. Remember, that took a large share of the table, and was my show-piece.

In the middle of this I grouped large strawberries, sticking the stems down into the moss, of course having the highest in the center. At each plate was placed one of those little green ivy leaf-shaped glass dishes that sell for seven cents a piece, filled with pulverized sugar, and a little glass sauce-dish, also holding moss and a

and interspersed that and the berries with the softly graceful small white sprays of the *dentia gracilis*, as a foil and relief to the color and the form of the strawberries.

Of course the candle shades were alternately strawberry color and white, and my cream-



Design for a Painted Fan. By C. Ritter.

colored dress was finished with a strawberry color soft velvet collar with knots of the same on my lace fichu. The menu followed the color scheme, from the tomato bisque at the beginning

not have too much of anything good or beautiful. That is a mistake. Like pictures or like human beings, flowers need an atmosphere. Crush them together and each loses its distinct